(b) if so, the prescribed norms regarding the limit of maximum number of students in each of the sections of a class in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(c) whether the total number of students in each of the section of a class ranges from 55 to 70 in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Shalimar Bagh;

(d) if so, the reasons for admitting such a large number of students in one section; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce the number of students in a section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (b) The standard of education in a vidyalaya depends on a number of factors like the quality of academic activities, location, availability of teachers, infrastructural facilities, class strength etc. Generally admission in a class is restricted to 35 in Kendriya Vidyalayas.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Higher strength is due to the higher demand for admission in this school.

(e) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan sanctions additional sections to reduce the number of students per class, subject to availability of funds and other infrastructural facilities.

Steps taken to ahieve total Literacy

4545. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had said on 24th April, 1997 that "that country's rulers failed the people in the field of education";

(b) if so, the action initiated by him to provide adequate funds for total literacy in the country; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve total literacy by the end of the century at the latest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The Government have taken up in hand a time bound Adult Education Programme aimed at achieving Total Literacy by the year 2005 A.D. The principal strategy of the programme is the launching of Total/ Post Literacy Campaigns which are area specific, time-bound, outcome-oriented and volunteer-based. The campaigns are implemented by the Zilla Saksharata Samitis usually headed by the District Collector. National Literacy Mission authorities and State literacy mission authorities provide the necessary directions and support to the programme. 428 districts have been covered under the Total Literacy Campaigns and 188 of them have entered the Post Literacy phase. The budget allocation of Rs. 127 crores has been made for the Adult Education programme during the year 1997-98.

Unmanned level crossing in Tamil Nadu

4546. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned level crossing in the Southern Railway passing through Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of crossing proposed to be closed down to avoid accidents on such crossings; and

(c) the number of crossings proposed to be closed down between Kanya Kumari and Tirunevelly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) 1381.

(b) 22.

(c) Nil.